

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 04460 111749Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----072585 111753Z /75
O 111700Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7938

S E C R E T BOGOTA 4460

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, CASC, CO
SUBJ: STARR KIDNAPPING: LETTER FROM MRS. JENSEN TO FARC

REF: BOGOTA 4461

FOLLOWING IS ENGLISH VERSION OF LETTER FROM MRS. JENSEN TO
FARC WHICH SORZANO GAVE MANCHOLA AT MAY 10 MEETING (REFTEL).

BEGIN TEXT
TO FARC:

FOR MORE THAN FIFTEEN MONTHS NOW YOU HAVE HAD MY SON
RICHARD STARR IN YOUR POWER. AS YOU KNOW I AM AN ELDERLY
LADY AND RICHARD IS MY ONLY SON, SO AS YOU CAN WELL IMAGINE
THIS LAST YEAR AND A HALF HAS BEEN FILLED WITH ANGUISH AND
DEEP SUFFERING.

YOU MUST ALSO KNOW THAT I AM A RETIRED PERSON WITH
SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS AS MY ONLY SOURCE OF INCOME. FOR
THIS REASON I WAS ONLY ABLE TO OFFER YOU A MODEST SUM FOR
THE RELEASE OF MY SON. DESPITE MY OFFER, HOWEVER, YOU HAVE
INSISTED THAT YOU WERE NOT INTERESTED IN ANY FINANCIAL RANSOM
BUT WANTED THE RELEASE OF A PRISONER IN A COLOMBIAN JAIL.
DESPITE MY NATURAL DESIRE TO DO WHATEVER MAY BE NECESSARY
TO ASSURE THE WELL-BEING OF MY SON, YOUR REQUEST WAS WELL
BEYOND MY POWER, AND AS TIME WENT BY, I GREW INCREASINGLY

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DESPERATE SEEING NO POSSIBILITY OF A SOLUTION.

NOW, HOWEVER, I AM FULL OF HOPE FOR I SEE THAT THE
PRISONER HAS BEEN RELEASED AND THAT YOUR OBJECTIVE HAS
BEEN ACHIEVED. FOR THIS I THANK GOD FOR HAVING HEARD MY
PRAYERS.

AS A MOTHER SEEKING THE FREEDOM OF HER ONLY SON, I
HAVE ALWAYS DEALT WITH YOU IN A CANDID AND HONEST MANNER

OFFERING YOU EVERYTHING I COULD GIVE TO OBTAIN THE LIBERATION
OF MY SON AND I TRUST THAT ON YOUR PART THE SINCERITY WHICH
HAS CHARACTERIZED YOUR COMMUNICATIONS HAS ALSO BEEN GENUINE.

I APPEAL NOW TO YOUR SENSE OF FAIRNESS TO RELEASE MY
SON, RICHARD. YOU HAVE ALREADY SOLEMNLY PROMISED ON YOUR
HONOR AS REVOLUTIONARIES TO FREE HIM ONCE YOUR OBJECTIVE HAD
BEEN MET AND I AM NOW ASKING YOU TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON YOUR
PROMISE.

I AM, NATURALLY, QUITE EXHAUSTED FROM THE LONG SUFFERING
THAT I HAVE BEEN EXPERIENCING FOR THE LAST FIFTEEN
MONTHS, AND I BEG YOU TO SHORTEN THIS TORMENT BY RELEASING
MY SON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. CHARLOTTE JENSEN
END TEXT. ASECIO

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, TEXT, PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Handling Restrictions:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
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Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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